



# NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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**FCC CHAIRMAN MICHAEL POWELL AND COMMISSIONER MICHAEL COPPS TO  
PARTICIPATE AT NATIONAL SUMMIT ON EMERGING TRIBAL ECONOMIES,  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2002, IN PHOENIX**  
*Chairman Powell to Deliver Keynote Address*

Washington, DC – FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell will deliver a keynote address at the National Summit on Emerging Tribal economies, as part of the FCC's Indian Telecommunications Initiatives program (ITI). He will speak on September 19, the day the FCC and other federal agencies will discuss their programs and initiatives of interest to American Indian tribal and Alaska Native village communities. FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps will also participate.

The summit is in Phoenix, AZ, from September 16 to 19 and is sponsored by federal agencies, Indian Country and corporate America. For further information or to register for the conference go to [www.lakotaexpress.com/nationalsummit](http://www.lakotaexpress.com/nationalsummit).

The FCC's ITI is a comprehensive program that seeks to foster partnerships among tribes, industry and government agencies to target specific concerns, identify potential solutions, and bring affordable, quality telecommunications services to American Indian tribes and Alaska Native village communities.

Access to telecommunications services is critical to the successful development of all communities. Among other benefits, telecommunications access enhances educational and learning opportunities, through access to the Internet; employment and business opportunities; public safety services, including access to emergency services and long distance medical services; and, access to government services.

The ITI's goals are to increase the telephone penetration rate among American Indian tribes and Alaska Native village communities; facilitate the deployment of telecommunications infrastructure necessary to provide telecommunications services; and inform consumers about financial support available through federal government programs, including Universal Service discounts for low income customers.

The FCC's ITI includes:

- interactive regional workshops to address telecommunications issues;
- outreach by key, senior FCC officials who will attend and participate in various conferences, meetings, and other events sponsored by tribes, tribal organizations and others interested in telecom issues;
- FCC staff meetings with representatives of individual tribes to learn about their unique telecommunications issues; and
- distribution of educational materials to tribes and tribal organizations about telecommunications issues.

- FCC -

For information on this and other topics of interest to consumers, visit our Web site at [www.fcc.gov/cgb](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb).

To receive information on this and other FCC consumer topics through the Commission's electronic subscriber service, click on [www.fcc.gov/cgb/emailservice.html](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/emailservice.html).